

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. An interactive tool for configuring a portal, comprising:  
a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal;  
a second user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements for at least one portal resource;  
wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout; and  
and wherein the first user interface includes a context-sensitive editor.
2. The interactive tool of claim 1, further comprising:  
at least one user interface operable to define and/or manage one of: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a theme, a menu, a look and feel, and a layout.
3. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:  
a desktop can be defined based on a template.
4. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:  
a desktop is a user-specific view of a portal.
5. The interactive tool of claim 1, further comprising:  
a third user interface operable to define and/or manage a desktop; and  
wherein the third user interface can render a preview of the desktop.
6. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:  
the portal can be depicted graphically as a hierarchy of the at least one portal resources.
7. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:  
the first user interface includes a hierarchy browser.
8. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:

an entitlement determines what capabilities are available to a portal visitor for the at least one resources.

9. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:  
an entitlement is based on a user role.
10. The interactive tool of claim 1, further comprising:  
a third user interface operable to define and/or manage content; and  
wherein content is part of a virtual content repository (VCR).
11. The interactive tool of claim 10 wherein:  
the third user interface allows a user to modify the VCR by dragging and dropping graphical objects representing VCR nodes.
12. The interactive tool of claim 1 wherein:  
a portlet can dynamically present content.
13. The interactive tool of claim 1, further comprising:  
a fourth user interface operable to define and/or manage personalization of the portal.
14. The interactive tool of claim 13 wherein:  
the fourth user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content placeholder.
15. The interactive tool of claim 13 wherein:  
the fourth user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content selector.
16. The interactive tool of claim 1, further comprising:  
a fifth user interface operable to define and/or manage delegated administration.
17. An interactive tool for configuring a portal, comprising:  
a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal;

a second user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements for at least one portal resource;

wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout;

wherein an entitlement determines what capabilities are available to a portal visitor for the at least one resources; and

wherein the first user interface includes a context-sensitive editor.

18. The interactive tool of claim 17, further comprising:

at least one user interface operable to define and/or manage one of: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, a theme, a menu , and a layout.

19. The interactive tool of claim 17 wherein:

a desktop can be defined based on a template.

20. The interactive tool of claim 17 wherein:

a desktop is a user-specific view of a portal.

21. The interactive tool of claim 17, further comprising:

a third user interface operable to define and/or manage a desktop; and  
wherein the third user interface can render a preview of the desktop.

22. The interactive tool of claim 17 wherein:

the portal can be depicted graphically as a hierarchy of the at least one portal resources.

23. The interactive tool of claim 17 wherein:

the first user interface includes a hierarchy browser.

24. The interactive tool of claim 17 wherein:

an entitlement is based on a user role.

25. The interactive tool of claim 17, further comprising:

a third user interface operable to define and/or manage content; and  
wherein content is part of a virtual content repository (VCR).

26. The interactive tool of claim 25 wherein:  
the third user interface allows a user to modify the VCR by dragging and  
dropping graphical objects representing VCR nodes.

27. The interactive tool of claim 17 wherein:  
a portlet can dynamically present content.

28. The interactive tool of claim 17, further comprising:  
a fourth user interface operable to define and/or manage personalization of the  
portal.

29. The interactive tool of claim 28 wherein:  
the fourth user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content  
placeholder.

30. The interactive tool of claim 28 wherein:  
the fourth user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content selector.

31. The interactive tool of claim 17, further comprising:  
a fifth user interface operable to define and/or manage delegated administration.

32. A method for configuring a portal, comprising:  
providing a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal;  
providing a second user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements  
for at least one portal resource;

wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a  
desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout; and  
wherein the first user interface includes a context-sensitive editor.

33. The method of claim 32, further comprising:

providing at least one user interface operable to define and/or manage one of: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, a theme, a menu, and a layout.

34. The method of claim 32 wherein:  
a desktop can be defined based on a template.

35. The method of claim 32 wherein:  
a desktop is a user-specific view of a portal.

36. The method of claim 32, further comprising:  
providing a third user interface operable to define and/or manage a desktop; and  
wherein the third user interface can render a preview of the desktop.

37. The method of claim 32 wherein:  
the portal can be depicted graphically as a hierarchy of the at least one portal  
resources.

38. The method of claim 32 wherein:  
the first user interface includes a hierarchy browser.

39. The method of claim 32 wherein:  
an entitlement determines what capabilities are available to a portal visitor for the  
at least one resources.

40. The method of claim 32 wherein:  
an entitlement is based on a user role.

41. The method of claim 32, further comprising:  
providing a third user interface operable to define and/or manage content; and  
wherein content is part of a virtual content repository (VCR).

42. The method of claim 41 wherein:

the third user interface allows a user to modify the VCR by dragging and dropping graphical objects representing VCR nodes.

43. The method of claim 32 wherein:  
a portlet can dynamically present content.

44. The method of claim 32, further comprising:  
providing a fourth user interface operable to define and/or manage personalization of the portal.

45. The method of claim 44 wherein:  
the fourth user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content placeholder.

46. The method of claim 44 wherein:  
the fourth user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content selector.

47. The method of claim 32, further comprising:  
providing a fifth user interface operable to define and/or manage delegated administration.

48. A machine readable medium having instructions stored thereon that when executed by a processor cause a system to:

provide a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal;

provide a second user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements for at least one portal resource;

wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, a theme, a menu, and a layout;  
and

wherein the first user interface includes a context-sensitive editor.

49. The machine readable medium of claim 48, further comprising instructions that when executed cause the system to:

at least one user interface operable to define and/or manage one of: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout.

50. The machine readable medium of claim 48 wherein:  
a desktop can be defined based on a template.

51. The machine readable medium of claim 48 wherein:  
a desktop is a user-specific view of a portal.

52. The machine readable medium of claim 48, further comprising  
instructions that when executed cause the system to:  
provide a third user interface operable to define and/or manage a desktop; and  
wherein the third user interface can render a preview of the desktop.

53. The machine readable medium of claim 48 wherein:  
the portal can be depicted graphically as a hierarchy of the at least one portal  
resources.

54. The machine readable medium of claim 48 wherein:  
the first user interface includes a hierarchy browser.

55. The machine readable medium of claim 48 wherein:  
an entitlement determines what capabilities are available to a portal visitor for the  
at least one resources.

56. The machine readable medium of claim 48 wherein:  
an entitlement is based on a user role.

57. The machine readable medium of claim 48, further comprising  
instructions that when executed cause the system to:  
provide a third user interface operable to define and/or manage content; and  
wherein content is part of a virtual content repository (VCR).

58. The machine readable medium of claim 57 wherein:  
the third user interface allows a user to modify the VCR by dragging and dropping graphical objects representing VCR nodes.

59. The machine readable medium of claim 48 wherein:  
a portlet can dynamically present content.

60. The machine readable medium of claim 48, further comprising instructions that when executed cause the system to:  
provide a fourth user interface operable to define and/or manage personalization of the portal.

61. The machine readable medium of claim 60 wherein:  
the fourth user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content placeholder.

62. The machine readable medium of claim 60 wherein:  
the fourth user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content selector.

63. The machine readable medium of claim 48, further comprising instructions that when executed cause the system to:  
provide a fifth user interface operable to define and/or manage delegated administration.

64. A computer data signal embodied in a transmission medium, comprising:  
a code segment including instructions to provide a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal;  
a code segment including instructions to provide a second user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements for at least one portal resource; and  
wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout.